

Claims:

1. A fabric switch comprising:

an inner cord (12) including at least two conductive  
5 cords(12a-12n) releasably connected in series; and

a non-conductive cord(14) enclosing said inner cord(12),  
wherein said non-conductive cord(14) is stretchable to  
release the contact between said at least two conductive  
cords(12a-12n) electrically.

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2. The switch of Claim 1, wherein the material of said  
non-conductive cord(14) defines a moisture-resistant enclosure  
for said inner cord(12).

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3. The switch of Claim 1, wherein said inner cord(12)  
and said non-conductive cord(14) are shaped in a loop form.

4. The switch of Claim 1, wherein said inner cord(12)  
is coupled to a fabric circuit integrated in a garment.

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5. The switch of Claim 1, wherein said inner cord(12)  
serves as a coupling to an electronic device.

6. The switch of Claim 1, wherein said inner cord(12)  
25 serves as a coupling to a power source.

7. The switch of Claim 1, wherein said inner cord(12) engages and supports ancillary units to transmit electronic signals.

5 8. The switch of Claim 1, wherein said inner cord(12) is coupled to a fabric circuit integrated in furniture.

9. A fabric switch comprising:  
a matrix of woven fibers(20), said woven fibers(20)  
10 being electrically non-conductive;  
a pair of conductive fibers(22,24) interwoven in said woven fibers (20) so as to form an electrical circuit; and,  
wherein said conductive fibers(22,24) come in contact electrically when said woven fibers(20) are in a relaxed mode  
15 and come apart in a stretch mode.

10. The switch of Claim 9, wherein said conductive fibers (22,24) are coupled to a fabric circuit integrated in a garment.

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11. The switch of Claim 9, wherein said conductive fibers (22,24) serve as a coupling to an electronic device.

12. The switch of Claim 9, wherein said conductive  
25 fibers (22,24) serve as a coupling to a power source.

13. The switch of Claim 9, wherein said conductive fibers (22,24) engage and support ancillary units to transmit electronic signals.

5        14. The switch of Claim 9, wherein said conductive fibers (22,24) are coupled to a fabric circuit integrated in furniture.

15        15. A method for permitting a person to activate a switch, said method comprising the steps of:  
providing an inner cord(12) including at least two conductive cords(12a-12n) releasably connected in series and a non-conductive cord (14) enclosing said inner cord;  
mounting both said inner cord (12) and said non-  
15        conductive cords 14) to a garment or furniture; and,  
stretching said non-conductive cord (14) to release the contact between said at least two conductive cords(12a-12n).

20        16. The method of Claim 15, further comprising the step of protecting said inner cord(12) from ambient conditions by enclosing it in said non-conductive cord (14) having a moisture-resistant material.

17. A method for permitting a person to activate a switch, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a matrix of non-conductive woven fibers (20) and a pair of conductive fibers (22,24) interwoven in said  
5 woven fibers(20) so as to form an electrical circuit;

mounting both said woven fibers (20) and conductive fibers(22,24) to a garment or furniture; and,

selectively stretching said woven fibers (20) so that said conductive fibers (22,24) come in contact electrically  
10 when said woven fibers (20) are in a relaxed mode and come apart in a stretch mode.